

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present Amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-7 are pending. Claims 1, 4 and 7, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been added. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically on page 55 (paragraph [0185]) and Figure 27. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,493,041 to Hanko, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Hanko”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,835,144 to Matsumura, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Matsumura”) in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,719,620 to Machino et al. (hereinafter, merely “Machino”) in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,827,336 to Acampora, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Acampora”).

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Hanko in view of Matsumura in further view of Machino, in further view of Acampora in further view of U.S. Patent No. 3,971,888 to Ching, et al. (hereinafter, merely “Ching”).

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...means for receiving a frame end signal that has been generated based on said header information and is synchronized with end of frame data, said frame end signal being indicative of the end of each frame... (Emphasis added)

Applicants submit that neither Hanko nor Matsumura nor Machino nor Acampora, taken alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the above identified features of claim 1. Specifically, none of the references used as a basis for rejection describe the frame end signal is generated based on header information of the predetermined unit, as recited in claim 1.

Specifically, the Office Action asserts that Hanko receives a frame end signal indicative of the end of the frame. However, Applicants submit that in the Hanko system, a frame end signal is not received. Rather, in Hanko, when the final pixel of an incoming video frame has arrived, digitizer/decoder 130 generates a synchronization signal that indicates an end of frame condition (See, Hanko, col. 8, lines 45-47). Thus, **in Hanko the final end signal is generated by the decoder when the final pixel is detected**. In the present invention, as shown in Fig. 27, the item word count in the item data block is used to determine the position of the data at the end of item data block to generate a "Frame End" signal based on the determined end position (See, Specification, page 55, paragraph [0185]). Thus, **in the present invention, the "Frame End" signal is generated in synchronization with the end-of-frame data based on the SDTI-CP header information** (See, Specification, page 53, paragraph [0182]); and the "Frame End" signal is received with the input data. Nothing has been found in Hanko that teaches receipt of the frame end signal that has been generated based on header information of the predetermined unit, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, this deficiency of Hanko is not cured by the supplemental teaching of Matsumura or Machino or Acampora.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, independent claims 4 and 7 are patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

Similarly, because Applicants maintain that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicants reserve the right to address such comments.

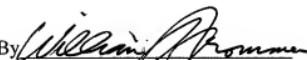
CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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